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To Clubs, of ten or more, the paper will  
be furnished at a liberal reduction in price.

# MELLS COUNTY TELEGRAPH.

A Weekly Journal—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Agriculture, Commerce, Markets and General Intelligence.

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sertions marked on copy, will be continued until  
forfeited and charged accordingly.  
If casual advertisers must pay in advance.  
Job Printing, of every description will  
be executed with accuracy and neatness.

## SCOTT AND GRAHAM.

Turn—"Dearest Mac,"

In Baltimore the Whigs agreed  
Upon their candidate,  
And mean that he shall be the man  
To guide the ship of State;  
He bears a name that is without  
A blemish or a spot—  
A patriot, hero, statesman, sage—  
Who else but WINFIELD SCOTT?  
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott, the brave and true,  
Who never yet has lost the fight,  
Nor will he lose it now!

Two Generals are in the field,  
Frank Pierce and Winfield Scott—  
Some think that Frank's a fighting man,  
And some think he is not—  
"Tis said that when in Mexico,  
While leading on his force,  
He took a sudden fainting fit,  
And tumbled off his horse.  
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Winfield the undaunted,  
Who never on the field,  
Surrendered, bled, or fainter!

But gallant Scott has had his mark  
On many a bloody plain,  
And patriot's hearts beat high to greet  
The Chief of Lundy's Lane;  
And Chippewa's classic ground,  
Or Crittenden's heroic scene,  
And if you hear of later deeds,  
Go ask in Mexico.

Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott and Graham true,  
They are the boys to lead the fight,  
The boys to win it too!

Now, boys, we go the nominee,  
And wipe out Pierce and King;  
From Maine to California  
We'll make the welkin ring.  
We'll give the Locos good Scott "soup"  
Of which so much we've read,  
And if they should not like the soup,  
We'll give them Graham bread!

Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
Where'er the chance permits,  
With warm Scott and Graham bread,  
We'll give the Locos fits.

Then let us enter on the fight,  
Our cause is just and high;  
Let's show our foes the "fuss" we raise,  
We'll make the feathers fly.  
The gallant Scott who leads the van,  
Is honest, faithful, true;  
And he has got the people's heart,  
So we say—WHAT SAY YOU?

Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott, the brave and true,  
He's got the honest people's heart,  
So we say—WHAT SAY YOU?

Our noble Scott has never failed,  
Wherever he might be;  
On Cerro Gordo's blood-stained heights,  
Or in diplomacy,  
He calmed the angry border feuds  
Upon the Northern line,  
And caused, where War's black frown arose,  
The Star of Peace to shine.  
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott, the brave and true,  
The man who never lost a field,  
Will win this field for two!

The Locofocos brag and boast,  
And show themselves quite fierce,  
Though all the capital they have  
Is General Frank Pierce:  
A man dug up when all was lost,  
Buchanan, Douglas, Cass;  
A sort of "Compromise" between  
A race-horse and an ass.  
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott, the brave and true,  
Who never faints on battle-fields,  
But fights his battles through!

Then, boys, hurrah for Winfield Scott,  
Who leads the great Whig troop,  
And only takes, when duty calls,  
"A hasty plate of soup!"  
Who never counts his enemies,  
And never knows a fear,  
But gives his foes a taking fire,  
In front and "in the rear."  
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott, the brave and true,  
Who never faints on battle-fields,  
But fights his battles through!

Now if you'll work, you gallant Whigs,  
For Scott and Willie Graham,  
We'll only lay the Locos flat,  
The place where we shall lay 'em.  
And when the "fainting" Pierce boys talk  
Of "feathers" day and night,  
Just let them know in Scott's war-hat  
There is not a feather left.  
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Scott and Graham true,  
They are the boys to lead the fight,  
The boys to win it too.

The New York Herald contains an account  
of a number of new buildings now  
going up in the city of New York, chiefly  
for private residences, most of which the  
journal represents as of magnificent and  
beautiful styles of architecture. Among the  
private residences are a number of different  
individuals, costing from \$20,000 to \$40,  
000 each. Forty-two of these magnificent  
residences will cost an aggregate of \$1,170,  
000, averaging \$27,300 each. One firm of  
two partners is building seven that will cost  
\$270,000—nearly \$39,000 apiece—which,  
when completed, might almost be styled a  
row of palaces.

The heavy rains this spring produced a  
considerable avalanche at Stillwater, Minne-  
sota, on the 29th of May last. Eight or ten  
cords of new terra firma were deposited in  
Lake St. Croix, making not only a permanent  
addition to the town, but also an excellent  
steambath landing at the edge of the  
embankment.

An iron bridge is to be built over the  
Muskegon at Zanesville for the Central  
Railroad. It is to be 224 feet in length,  
having four equal spans, and will contain 67  
tons of wrought, and 130 tons of cast iron.  
The only timber used will be in the floor,  
which will require 85,000 feet of lumber.

## From the New York Times. HENRY CLAY.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE AND PUBLIC CAREER.

The heavy blow, long suspended, has  
fallen at last. Henry Clay, the renowned  
and the peerless, has gone to his rest. Af-  
ter a lingering and a painful illness—away  
from his home—but attended by all filial  
and friendly affection could bring to his dying  
couch—he has closed his long, useful and  
eventful life. For more than half a century  
he has been among the foremost men in all  
the world—the great leader in the Senate of  
the United States—known wherever the En-  
glish tongue is spoken, as the eloquent  
Champion of Freedom, the defender of the  
wronged, and the protector of the weak—  
great in all the noblest attributes of charac-  
ter, and pre-eminently a man of every field,  
in the course of a long and eventful life, he  
has been called to ever. Not a nation  
only, but friends of Freedom and admirers  
of high ability of character throughout the  
world, will mourn his loss. Yet he has  
fallen only after his work was done. He  
leaves as his monument, long years of de-  
votion to his country's welfare—a proud  
record of acts, and of words, more powerful  
than acts, for the advancement of her glory,  
and the undying attachment of the warmest  
and the truest friends, any man could ever  
claim.

Mr. Clay was born on the 12th of April,  
1777, and was thus 75 years, 2 months, and  
17 days old, at the time of his death.

In announcing this great national calamity  
the ordinary practice appears to require  
something in the nature of a biographical  
outline of the life of the departed. And yet,  
so identified is the life of Henry Clay with  
every prominent event in the federal  
history for the past half century, that if a  
breach of the custom were ever justifiable,  
it would seem to be so in this instance.—  
The narrative must trench, at every point,  
on the history of the nation; frequently on  
that of the world. His life is historical.—  
But, as his incidents bear a closer relation to  
us than to any other generation, we cannot  
restrain from reciting them, if only to recall  
the foundation of the trust devotion where-  
with a people ever rewarded a faithful public  
servant. We turn back to the first page of  
the story.

That part of the career of Henry Clay,  
which preceded his appearance in the political  
world, is not without its interest, because  
not without its peculiarities. Few of our  
public men enter upon active life without  
the long preparatory drilling of school and  
college, the discipline of mind, of habit, and  
sometimes of morals. But Henry Clay  
owed very little to the schoolmaster. Born  
on the twelfth day of April, 1777, his father,  
Rev. John Clay, survived that period only  
three years; and dying, left the care of a  
half-dozen children to his widow, ill pro-  
vided with the means of bantling the cares  
and exigencies of life. A re-marriage to  
Capt. Henry Watkins proved more fortunate  
for the lady than such duplicate unions are  
apt to be. The step-father appears to have  
entertained a warmly affectionate feeling  
towards the dependent little family. Henry,  
after a brief period of study on an English  
pedagogue, was provided with a post behind  
the counter of a Richmond shop-keeper.—  
Subsequently a desk was found for him in  
the office of the Court of Chancery, where,  
in addition to a delightful intimacy with the  
ascending fictions of the law, he acquired the  
valuable friendship of Hon. Theodore  
Wythe, the learned and excellent Chan-  
cellor of the State of Virginia. Attracted by  
the already obvious talent of the youth, the  
Chancellor for several years employed him  
as an amanuensis; and in order to give him  
every advantage of professional prepa-  
ration, eventually placed him in the  
office of Mr. Brooke, the Attorney-General,  
where the year of probationary reading was  
accomplished in the early part of the year  
1797. Admitted to the bar, the young ad-  
vocate cast about him, as young advocates  
are apt to do, for a location in some pro-  
bably lucid community, where the fortunate  
conjunction of talent with opportunity might  
be brought about. A few years before, Cap-  
tain Watkins, with his large family, had mi-  
grated to Woodford County, Kentucky, thirteen  
miles or so from Lexington. To Lexington,  
therefore, in November, 1797, the future  
glory of Kentucky was attracted; and there  
found himself, to use his own language,  
without patrons, without the favor or coun-  
tenance of the great or opulent, without the  
means of paying his weekly board; and in  
the midst of a bar unconquered and dis-  
tinguished by eminent members. "I remember," said  
he in his farewell speech of 1842, "how  
comfortable I thought I should be if I could  
make one hundred pounds, Virginia money,  
per year, and with what delight I received  
the first fifteen shillings fee. My hopes  
were more than realized. I immediately  
rushed into a successful and lucrative prac-  
tice."

That this practice grew with unparalleled  
rapidity, is not wonderful at all, considering  
the very unusual brilliancy of the legal  
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of evidence; that most practical form of legal  
acquisition; and gifted with a burning, cop-  
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as the first *Nisi Prius*, or jury lawyer, in  
the State. Cases of the utmost moment  
crowded upon him. The criminal records  
of Kentucky are adorned with many splen-  
did specimens of his forensic oratory, gen-  
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was achieved at once; and had not the claims  
of political life interfered, there is no esti-  
mating the height of excellence to which  
the jurisconsult, so early ripe in the profes-  
sional ability, might have attained. It is not,  
however, the purpose of this necessarily in-  
adequate biography to enlarge upon the  
professional career of its subject. The most  
resplendent achievements at the bar could  
form but a slight claim indeed, to that in-  
tensity of affection and earnest admiration,  
with which it has been the fortune of Mr.  
Clay to bind the whole nation to himself.

We must seek for the key of his popularity  
in his public life and in the exhaustive  
value of his public services.

At the period of Mr. Clay's settlement in  
Kentucky, the Constitution of that State was  
undergoing a careful scrutiny and amend-  
ment. The instinctive affinities of his  
nature for the freest, noblest principles of  
humanity, at once brought out the new  
corner in favor of the gradual abolition of  
slavery. The institution did not then, nor  
has it ever since, met with the slightest favor  
at his hands. His heartiest efforts unhop-  
fully were unsuccessful. The Convention was  
unprepared for a measure so far in advance  
of the time, and while the young politician  
was deeply chagrined at the failure of his  
efforts, he was pained to find that the  
public looked upon him coldly and distrust-  
fully. The cloud of popular disfavor, how-  
ever, rested on him briefly and lightly. The  
highly conservative measures of Mr. Adams  
Administration found few friends in Ken-  
tucky, and an earnest opponent in the person  
of Mr. Clay, who denounced them in terms  
of such ardent indignation and starting force  
as not only to recover the prestige lost by  
his anti-slavery predilections, but to secure  
for him at once the rank of the ablest and  
most logical political orator of the District.  
Without regard to his extreme youth, and  
his recent citizenship in the State, he was  
their champion and leader. In the Presi-  
dential canvass of 1800, his labors were  
prodigious and unremitting; and Kentucky,  
by overwhelming odds, gave her vote to  
Thomas Jefferson. It was not until 1803  
however, that Mr. Clay, entered upon those  
legislative duties, from which there was no  
mentionable repose through the remainder  
of his life. In that year he was elected to  
the lower branch of the State Legislature.  
Many questions of local importance were  
before that body while he sat in it. On one  
or two of them he had occasion to measure  
swords with Felix Grundy, in after years the  
distinguished and devoted friend of Andrew  
Jackson; and did so with undiminished rep-  
utation.

The year 1806 witnessed the first appear-  
ance of Mr. Clay at the National Capital,  
where he was destined to play so conspicu-  
ous a part. Gen. John Adair having resign-  
ed his seat in the United States Senate, Mr.  
Clay, then in the 30th year of his age, was  
chosen to fill it; and it is a little remarkable,  
as a testimony to the sterling consistency of  
the statesman in later life, that he commenced  
his Senatorial course by advocating  
several projects for internal improvement.—  
His maiden speech in the Senate was in  
favor of the bill to authorize the erection of a  
bridge over the Potomac at Georgetown; and  
it is said it not only insured the adoption  
of the measure, but impressed the honora-  
ble listeners with a profound sense of the  
abilities of their younger brother.

The proposition of the Executive to suspend the  
habeas corpus act, in order to a summary  
proceeding against Mr. Aaron Burr, evoked  
the animated opposition of the Kentucky  
Senator at a later period of the session, and  
the project was abandoned.

The close of the session of 1806-7, was  
the close of Mr. Clay's first term in the Sen-  
ate. He was instantly however, returned  
to the State Legislature, where his powers  
were tested to their utmost in the support of  
the embargo policy of Mr. Jefferson. Res-  
olutions, approving of the Embargo, and  
favorable to the development of American  
Industry, were introduced by him, and  
passed through the House, with triumphant  
majorities. The only dissentient was an  
uncompromising Federalist, Mr. Humphrey  
Marshall, whose personal bitterness against  
Mr. Clay was so unbounded as to provoke a  
challenge. The duel resulted in trifling  
wounds to both combatants; and sincere re-  
grets on the part of the subject of this sketch,  
which subsequent events served only to  
render more poignant. Upon the resigna-  
tion of Hon. Buckner Thurston, in 1809,  
Mr. Clay was again elected to U. S. Senate.  
The period was one of intense, unexampled  
excitement. The steps taken by the Ad-  
ministration in opposition to the arrogant  
orders of the British Council, and the ne-  
cessity of supporting the Executive in his  
relative policy, were urged upon Congress  
at the opening of the session, and were en-  
ergetically sustained throughout by Mr.  
Clay. Indeed, in all the long, stormy con-  
test, commencing with the inauguration of  
Mr. Madison and ending in the treaty of  
Ghent, his voice was constantly for granting  
every aid to the Executive, and the support  
thus spontaneously rendered was indubitably  
the main stay of the war party. The Fed-  
eralists employed powerful talent and every  
possible device to obstruct the Republican  
measures. Mr. Clay was constantly opposed  
by such men as John Randolph and  
Josiah Quincy. The session of 1809-10  
brought out the talents of the Senator from  
Kentucky, in a very striking light. The  
action of the President in annexing West  
Florida to the Union, was the subject of  
vivid attack from the opposition. On the  
25th of December, 1810, Mr. Clay delivered  
a brief but conclusive and eloquent defence  
of that action in the Senate, and put the  
clamors of the assistants very effectively to  
rest.

Next year came up the question of a re-  
charter of the bank of the United States.—  
The Republicans were for several reasons  
opposed to that institution. It wielded a  
large influence; it was controlled by Fed-  
eralists; the stock was owned largely by Brit-  
ish capitalists; it was relied upon by the  
peace party, as a sure means of embarrass-  
ing the party in power, in case of a decla-  
ration of war. To end, it at least suspend  
it, was consequently a product of the same  
out-anglican system, which dictated the  
precedent policy of the Government; and  
Mr. Clay was impelled to throw the whole  
weight of his talents into the contest, in or-  
der to prevent a triumph of the Federalists.  
The Legislature of Kentucky likewise adopted  
resolutions instructing its representatives  
to take that course; and if the Senator had  
not spoken, he would unquestionably have  
been obliged to vote against the charter, or  
resign at a moment when the opportunities  
for serving his country were unprecedented.

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ance of Mr. Clay at the National Capital,  
where he was destined to play so conspicu-  
ous a part. Gen. John Adair having resign-  
ed his seat in the United States Senate, Mr.  
Clay, then in the 30th year of his age, was  
chosen to fill it; and it is a little remarkable,  
as a testimony to the sterling consistency of  
the statesman in later life, that he commenced  
his Senatorial course by advocating  
several projects for internal improvement.—  
His maiden speech in the Senate was in  
favor of the bill to authorize the erection of a  
bridge over the Potomac at Georgetown; and  
it is said it not only insured the adoption  
of the measure, but impressed the honora-  
ble listeners with a profound sense of the  
abilities of their younger brother.

The proposition of the Executive to suspend the  
habeas corpus act, in order to a summary  
proceeding against Mr. Aaron Burr, evoked  
the animated opposition of the Kentucky  
Senator at a later period of the session, and  
the project was abandoned.

The close of the session of 1806-7, was  
the close of Mr. Clay's first term in the Sen-  
ate. He was instantly however, returned  
to the State Legislature, where his powers  
were tested to their utmost in the support of  
the embargo policy of Mr. Jefferson. Res-  
olutions, approving of the Embargo, and  
favorable to the development of American  
Industry, were introduced by him, and  
passed through the House, with triumphant  
majorities. The only dissentient was an  
uncompromising Federalist, Mr. Humphrey  
Marshall, whose personal bitterness against  
Mr. Clay was so unbounded as to provoke a  
challenge. The duel resulted in trifling  
wounds to both combatants; and sincere re-  
grets on the part of the subject of this sketch,  
which subsequent events served only to  
render more poignant. Upon the resigna-  
tion of Hon. Buckner Thurston, in 1809,  
Mr. Clay was again elected to U. S. Senate.  
The period was one of intense, unexampled  
excitement. The steps taken by the Ad-  
ministration in opposition to the arrogant  
orders of the British Council, and the ne-  
cessity of supporting the Executive in his  
relative policy, were urged upon Congress  
at the opening of the session, and were en-  
ergetically sustained throughout by Mr.  
Clay. Indeed, in all the long, stormy con-  
test, commencing with the inauguration of  
Mr. Madison and ending in the treaty of  
Ghent, his voice was constantly for granting  
every aid to the Executive, and the support  
thus spontaneously rendered was indubitably  
the main stay of the war party. The Fed-  
eralists employed powerful talent and every  
possible device to obstruct the Republican  
measures. Mr. Clay was constantly opposed  
by such men as John Randolph and  
Josiah Quincy. The session of 1809-10  
brought out the talents of the Senator from  
Kentucky, in a very striking light. The  
action of the President in annexing West  
Florida to the Union, was the subject of  
vivid attack from the opposition. On the  
25th of December, 1810, Mr. Clay delivered  
a brief but conclusive and eloquent defence  
of that action in the Senate, and put the  
clamors of the assistants very effectively to  
rest.

Next year came up the question of a re-  
charter of the bank of the United States.—  
The Republicans were for several reasons  
opposed to that institution. It wielded a  
large influence; it was controlled by Fed-  
eralists; the stock was owned largely by Brit-  
ish capitalists; it was relied upon by the  
peace party, as a sure means of embarrass-  
ing the party in power, in case of a decla-  
ration of war. To end, it at least suspend  
it, was consequently a product of the same  
out-anglican system, which dictated the  
precedent policy of the Government; and  
Mr. Clay was impelled to throw the whole  
weight of his talents into the contest, in or-  
der to prevent a triumph of the Federalists.  
The Legislature of Kentucky likewise adopted  
resolutions instructing its representatives  
to take that course; and if the Senator had  
not spoken, he would unquestionably have  
been obliged to vote against the charter, or  
resign at a moment when the opportunities  
for serving his country were unprecedented.

## From the New York Times. HENRY CLAY.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE AND PUBLIC CAREER.

The heavy blow, long suspended, has  
fallen at last. Henry Clay, the renowned  
and the peerless, has gone to his rest. Af-  
ter a lingering and a painful illness—away  
from his home—but attended by all filial  
and friendly affection could bring to his dying  
couch—he has closed his long, useful and  
eventful life. For more than half a century  
he has been among the foremost men in all  
the world—the great leader in the Senate of  
the United States—known wherever the En-  
glish tongue is spoken, as the eloquent  
Champion of Freedom, the defender of the  
wronged, and the protector of the weak—  
great in all the noblest attributes of charac-  
ter, and pre-eminently a man of every field,  
in the course of a long and eventful life, he  
has been called to ever. Not a nation  
only, but friends of Freedom and admirers  
of high ability of character throughout the  
world, will mourn his loss. Yet he has  
fallen only after his work was done. He  
leaves as his monument, long years of de-  
votion to his country's welfare—a proud  
record of acts, and of words, more powerful  
than acts, for the advancement of her glory,  
and the undying attachment of the warmest  
and the truest friends, any man could ever  
claim.

Mr. Clay was born on the 12th of April,  
1777, and was thus 75 years, 2 months, and  
17 days old, at the time of his death.

In announcing this great national calamity  
the ordinary practice appears to require  
something in the nature of a biographical  
outline of the life of the departed. And yet,  
so identified is the life of Henry Clay with  
every prominent event in the federal  
history for the past half century, that if a  
breach of the custom were ever justifiable,  
it would seem to be so in this instance.—  
The narrative must trench, at every point,  
on the history of the nation; frequently on  
that of the world. His life is historical.—  
But, as his incidents bear a closer relation to  
us than to any other generation, we cannot  
restrain from reciting them, if only to recall  
the foundation of the trust devotion where-  
with a people ever rewarded a faithful public  
servant. We turn back to the first page of  
the story.

That part of the career of Henry Clay,  
which preceded his appearance in the political  
world, is not without its interest, because  
not without its peculiarities. Few of our  
public men enter upon active life without  
the long preparatory drilling of school and  
college, the discipline of mind, of habit, and  
sometimes of morals. But Henry Clay  
owed very little to the schoolmaster. Born  
on the twelfth day of April, 1777, his father,  
Rev. John Clay, survived that period only  
three years; and dying, left the care of a  
half-dozen children to his widow, ill pro-  
vided with the means of bantling the cares  
and exigencies of life. A re-marriage to  
Capt. Henry Watkins proved more fortunate  
for the lady than such duplicate unions are  
apt to be. The step-father appears to have  
entertained a warmly affectionate feeling  
towards the dependent little family. Henry,  
after a brief period of study on an English  
pedagogue, was provided with a post behind  
the counter of a Richmond shop-keeper.—  
Subsequently a desk was found for him in  
the office of the Court of Chancery, where,  
in addition to a delightful intimacy with the  
ascending fictions of the law, he acquired the  
valuable friendship of Hon. Theodore  
Wythe, the learned and excellent Chan-  
cellor of the State of Virginia. Attracted by  
the already obvious talent of the youth, the  
Chancellor for several years employed him  
as an amanuensis; and in order to give him  
every advantage of professional prepa-  
ration, eventually placed him in the  
office of Mr. Brooke, the Attorney-General,  
where the year of probationary reading was  
accomplished in the early part of the year  
1797. Admitted to the bar, the young ad-  
vocate cast about him, as young advocates  
are apt to do, for a location in some pro-  
bably lucid community, where the fortunate  
conjunction of talent with opportunity might  
be brought about. A few years before, Cap-  
tain Watkins, with his large family, had mi-  
grated to Woodford County, Kentucky, thirteen  
miles or so from Lexington. To Lexington,  
therefore, in November, 1797, the future  
glory of Kentucky was attracted; and there  
found himself, to use his own language,  
without patrons, without the favor or coun-  
tenance of the great or opulent, without the  
means of paying his weekly board; and in  
the midst of a bar unconquered and dis-  
tinguished by eminent members. "I remember," said  
he in his farewell speech of 1842, "how  
comfortable I thought I should be if I could  
make one hundred pounds, Virginia money,  
per year, and with what delight I received  
the first fifteen shillings fee. My hopes  
were more than realized. I immediately  
rushed into a successful and lucrative prac-  
tice."

That this practice grew with unparalleled  
rapidity, is not wonderful at all, considering  
the very unusual brilliancy of the legal  
talent. A master of the general principles  
of law; thoroughly familiar with the rules  
of evidence; that most practical form of legal  
acquisition; and gifted with a burning, cop-  
ious, fluent eloquence, he at once took rank  
as the first *Nisi Prius*, or jury lawyer, in  
the State. Cases of the utmost moment  
crowded upon him. The criminal records  
of Kentucky are adorned with many splen-  
did specimens of his forensic oratory, gen-  
erally resulting in the acquittal of the prisoner  
he defended, and always uttered with the  
most clear and decided conviction of the  
justice of the cause to which he unreservedly  
devoted himself. His legal reputation  
was achieved at once; and had not the claims  
of political life interfered, there is no esti-  
mating the height of excellence to which  
the jurisconsult, so early ripe in the profes-  
sional ability, might have attained. It is not,  
however, the purpose of this necessarily in-  
adequate biography to enlarge upon the  
professional career of its subject. The most  
resplendent achievements at the bar could  
form but a slight claim indeed, to that in-  
tensity of affection and earnest admiration,  
with which it has been the fortune of Mr.  
Clay to bind the whole nation to himself.

We must seek for the key of his popularity  
in his public life and in the exhaustive  
value of his public services.

At the period of Mr. Clay's settlement in  
Kentucky, the Constitution of that State was  
undergoing a careful scrutiny and amend-  
ment. The instinctive affinities of his  
nature for the freest, noblest principles of  
humanity, at once brought out the new  
corner in favor of the gradual abolition of  
slavery. The institution did not then, nor  
has it ever since, met with the slightest favor  
at his hands. His heartiest efforts unhop-  
fully were unsuccessful. The Convention was  
unprepared for a measure so far in advance  
of the time, and while the young politician  
was deeply chagrined at the failure of his  
efforts, he was pained to find that the  
public looked upon him coldly and distrust-  
fully. The cloud of popular disfavor, how-  
ever, rested on him briefly and lightly. The  
highly conservative measures of Mr. Adams  
Administration found few friends in Ken-  
tucky, and an earnest opponent in the person  
of Mr. Clay, who denounced them in terms  
of such ardent indignation and starting force  
as not only to recover the prestige lost by  
his anti-slavery predilections, but to secure  
for him at once the rank of the ablest and  
most logical political orator of the District.  
Without regard to his extreme youth, and  
his recent citizenship in the State, he was  
their champion and leader. In the Presi-  
dential canvass of 1800, his labors were